

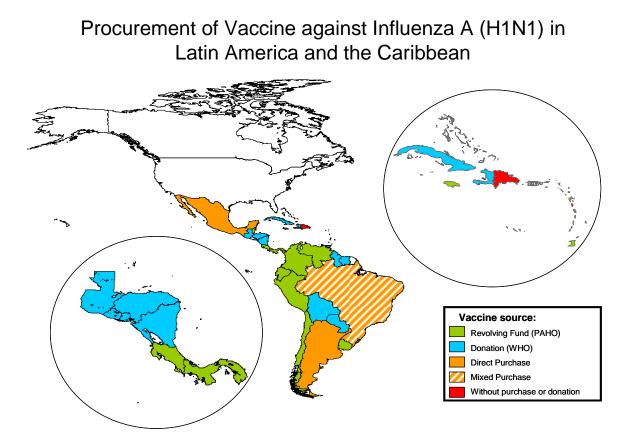


Report on the progress of the A H1N1 Influenza Vaccination in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) 12 March 2010

Countries and territories in the Region have several mechanisms for acquiring the influenza A H1N1 vaccine:

- direct purchase of the vaccine through the Revolving Fund (23 countries)
- vaccine donations from WHO (10 countries)
- direct purchase from the suppliers (2 countries)
- mixed purchases (direct from the suppliers and also from the FR (1 country)

It is estimated that countries and territories in LAC will have access to approximately 140 million doses of influenza A H1N1 vaccine. However, there are countries such as the Dominican Republic and Dominica that have not purchased or received donated vaccines against pandemic influenza.







- 1) Procurement of the vaccine through the Revolving Fund:
 - To date 18 countries have already received vaccine against pandemic influenza in Latin America and the Caribbean and 5 additional countries will receive it by March at the latest.
 - Some countries have diminished the quantities of dose to be purchased, probably due to the cost of the vaccine.
- 2) WHO vaccines donations:

On 3 March, Nicaragua received the first shipment of the vaccine donated by WHO, corresponding to 110,000 dose of this vaccine. Cuba is programmed to receive vaccine on 17 March and El Salvador on 21 March.

3) Reports of vaccination advances

As of 9 March, 13 countries of the Region had initiated the vaccination of risk groups: Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Brazil, Costa Rica, Mexico, Montserrat, Panama, Peru, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago, with approximately 12 million doses administered.

With regards to events supposedly attributed to vaccination or immunization (ESAVIs), there have been 226 events notified, eight of which have been classified as serious events. Bahamas (2), Mexico (6). To date none of these events has been associated with the vaccine against pandemic influenza.

4) The technical documents and advances in vaccination made by countries will be updated in the PAHO Immunization website:

http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2461&Itemid=358&Iang=es